

Interviews: N=867 Likely Voters in Competitive
U.S. House and Senate Races
Interviewing Period: May 2 - 13, 2014
Margin of Error = ± 4.1%
Designed and Directed by: SocialSphere, Inc.
Conducted by: GfK using sample from KnowledgePanel®
Mode: Online (in English and Spanish)



1. We understand that plenty of people are not registered to vote, but we are wondering if you are registered to vote?

Yes..... 100%

2. Are you registered to vote at your home address?

Yes..... 100%

3. How likely is it that you will vote in the general midterm elections for Congress in November?

Definitely will be voting..... 77%
 Probably will be voting 23%

4. Regardless of how likely you are to vote, how enthusiastic are you about this election?

NET: Not Enthusiastic 9%
 0 - Not at all enthusiastic..... 3%
 1 3%
 2 3%
 3 10%
 4 6%
 5 24%
 6 10%
 7 14%
NET: Enthusiastic 26%
 8 13%
 9 4%
 10 - Extremely enthusiastic..... 9%

5. When it comes to voting, with which party do you consider yourself to be affiliated?

NET: Democrat	34%
Strong Democrat	21%
Not a very strong Democrat	13%
NET: Republican	39%
Strong Republican	23%
Not a very strong Republican.....	16%
NET: Independent/Unaffiliated	26%
Leans Democrat.....	7%
Leans Republican	8%
Does not lean either way	11%
Decline to answer	1%

6. Do you consider yourself to be a supporter of the Tea Party movement, or are you not a supporter of the Tea Party movement?

Supporter	18%
Not a supporter	58%
Not sure.....	24%

7. All in all, do you think that things in the nation are...?

Generally headed in the right direction ...	18%
Off on the wrong track.....	55%
Not sure what direction the country is headed in.....	28%

8. Thinking ahead several years, is your outlook about the United States generally optimistic or generally pessimistic?

Optimistic	47%
Pessimistic	51%
Decline to answer	2%

9. Thinking about national issues for a moment, which issue concerns you most?
(Open-ended question – coded responses)

NET: Economy	50%
Economy - General	26%
Jobs.....	12%
National debt/ budget/government spending	8%
Economic equality/inequality.....	2%
Taxes	2%
Health care - General.....	12%
Education	4%
Government/ political corruption	3%
Immigration	3%
Environment.....	2%
Foreign Affairs.....	2%
Lack of moral values.....	2%
National Security/ war/ defense cuts	2%
President Obama/lack of leadership.....	2%
Terrorism.....	2%
Social Security.....	1%
Socialism.....	1%
Other	12%
Declined to answer	11%

In general, do you approve or disapprove of the job performance of:

10. Barack Obama as president.

NET: Approve	40%
Strongly approve	15%
Somewhat approve	25%
NET: Disapprove	59%
Somewhat disapprove	18%
Strongly disapprove	41%
Decline to answer	1%

11. The Democrats in Congress.

NET: Approve	35%
Strongly approve	6%
Somewhat approve	30%
NET: Disapprove	64%
Somewhat disapprove	28%
Strongly disapprove	36%
Decline to answer	1%

12. The Republicans in Congress.

NET: Approve	31%
Strongly approve	4%
Somewhat approve	27%
NET: Disapprove	69%
Somewhat disapprove	34%
Strongly disapprove	35%
Decline to answer	-

13. If the election for the [U.S. House of Representatives/U.S. Senate] were held today, would you vote for the [Democratic candidate] or the [Republican candidate] in [your district/your state]?

Republican candidate	41%
Democratic candidate	34%
Don't know	25%
Decline to answer	-

[If "Don't know" in Q13, ask]

14. As of now, do you lean toward the Democratic candidate or the Republican candidate?

	(n=217)
Lean: Republican candidate	21%
Lean: Democratic candidate	16%
Don't know	62%
Decline to answer	-

2014 Election Vote With Leaners Allocated

Republican candidate	46%
Democratic candidate	38%
Don't know	16%

15. Which of the following comes closest to your own view regarding the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare?

Keep the law as it is	16%
Keep the law, but with modifications	35%
Repeal the law	48%
Decline to answer	1%

16. How important is the health care law in determining which candidate you support in November?

NET: Important	89%
Very important	49%
Somewhat important	40%
NET: Not Important	10%
Not very important	7%
Not at all important	3%
Decline to answer	1%

17. Do you support or oppose allowing same-sex couples to marry?

NET: Support	48%
Strongly support	26%
Somewhat support	22%
NET: Oppose	52%
Somewhat oppose	19%
Strongly oppose	33%
Decline to answer	1%

18. How important is the issue of same-sex marriage in determining which candidate you support in November?

NET: Important	62%
Very important.....	28%
Somewhat important	34%
NET: Not Important	38%
Not very important.....	26%
Not at all important.....	12%
Decline to answer	1%

19. Do you support or oppose legalizing marijuana for recreational use?

NET: Support.....	43%
Strongly support.....	15%
Somewhat support.....	29%
NET: Oppose	56%
Somewhat oppose	21%
Strongly oppose	36%
Decline to answer	1%

20. How important is the issue of legalizing marijuana in determining which candidate you support in November?

NET: Important	49%
Very important.....	21%
Somewhat important	28%
NET: Not Important	51%
Not very important.....	36%
Not at all important.....	15%
Decline to answer	-

21. Do you support:

The right to an abortion with no restrictions.....	19%
The right to an abortion with some restrictions such as parental notification for minors and a cut-off on late-term abortions	35%
A nearly total ban on abortion with exceptions for victims of rape and incest and where the mother's life is at risk	34%
A ban on abortion in all circumstances ...	11%
Decline to answer	1%

22. How important is abortion in determining which candidate you support in November?

NET: Important	70%
Very important.....	30%
Somewhat important	40%
NET: Not Important	29%
Not very important.....	21%
Not at all important.....	8%
Decline to answer	1%

23. Do you support or oppose comprehensive immigration reform?

NET: Support	71%
Strongly support.....	28%
Somewhat support.....	42%
NET: Oppose	28%
Somewhat oppose	16%
Strongly oppose	12%
Decline to answer	2%

24. How important is the issue of comprehensive immigration reform in determining which candidate you support in November?

NET: Important	73%
Very important.....	28%
Somewhat important	45%
NET: Not Important	26%
Not very important.....	20%
Not at all important.....	6%
Decline to answer	1%

25. Do you support or oppose stricter background checks for gun purchasers in the United States?

NET: Support	79%
Strongly support.....	50%
Somewhat support.....	29%
NET: Oppose	21%
Somewhat oppose	12%
Strongly oppose	9%
Decline to answer	-

26. How important is the issue of stricter background checks for gun purchasers in determining which candidate you support in November?

NET: Important	75%
Very important.....	32%
Somewhat important	43%
NET: Not Important	24%
Not very important.....	18%
Not at all important.....	6%
Decline to answer	1%

27. Do you support or oppose government efforts to address male-female income disparity in the United States?

NET: Support	74%
Strongly support	32%
Somewhat support	42%
NET: Oppose	24%
Somewhat oppose	14%
Strongly oppose	10%
Decline to answer	2%

28. How important is the issue of addressing male-female income disparity in determining which candidate you support in November?

NET: Important	58%
Very important	16%
Somewhat important	42%
NET: Not Important	41%
Not very important	26%
Not at all important	15%
Decline to answer	2%

29. Recently it was announced that 8 million Americans have signed up for Obamacare.

President Obama declared this a major victory and encouraged Democratic candidates for Congress to forcefully defend and be proud of the law.

The Republican leadership said that the initial enrollment numbers don't tell the whole story and the repeal debate is not over.

Based on what you know now - do you believe that the debate on Obamacare should be over, or not?

Debate should be over	39%
Debate should not be over	60%
Decline to answer	1%

Earlier this year, a member of Congress resigned after buying cocaine from an undercover officer, another was videotaped kissing a staff-person who was not his wife.

30. Now that you know that a member of Congress was arrested for buying cocaine, would you say you are shocked, mildly surprised, or not moved much at all?

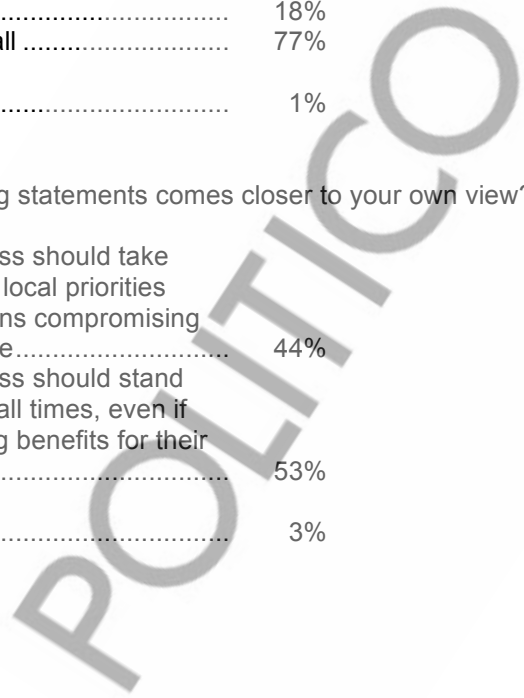
Shocked	11%
Mildly surprised	29%
Not moved much at all	58%
Decline to answer	1%

31. Now that you know that a member of Congress was caught in an extra-marital affair, would you say you are shocked, mildly surprised, or not moved much at all?

Shocked	4%
Mildly surprised	18%
Not moved much at all	77%
Decline to answer	1%

32. Which of the following statements comes closer to your own view?

A member of Congress should take care of their district's local priorities first, even if that means compromising on matters of principle.....	44%
A member of Congress should stand by their principles at all times, even if that means sacrificing benefits for their district.....	53%
Decline to answer	3%



33. From 2003 through 2007, Republicans controlled the White House and both houses in Congress. From 2009 through 2011, the Democrats controlled the White House and both houses in Congress.

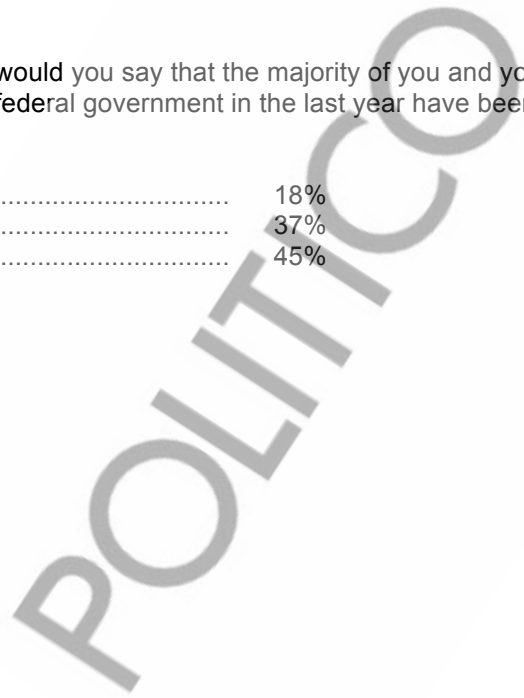
From 2011 through today, Democrats controlled the White House, and the two houses of Congress are divided between Democrats and Republicans.

Regardless of which party controls the White House, do you believe that it is best for our country when:

One party controls the White House and Congress.....	33%
White House and Congress are divided	64%
Decline to answer	3%

34. Generally speaking, would you say that the majority of you and your immediate family's interactions with the federal government in the last year have been more positive or more negative?

More positive.....	18%
More negative	37%
Unsure.....	45%



[If “More positive” in Q34, ask]

35. Could you give me one recent example of how you or a member of your immediate family was impacted in a positive way by government? (Open-ended question)

(n=153)

Affordable Care Act/Obamacare benefits/assistance.....	12%
Medicare benefits/assistance.....	7%
General healthcare.....	7%
General government service provision/responsiveness.....	5%
Social Security benefits/assistance.....	5%
Tax assistance/tax refunds/law benefits.....	5%
Veterans benefits/assistance.....	4%
Jobs.....	4%
Government economic intervention.....	3%
Other.....	4%
Declined to answer/ No answer.....	48%

[If “More negative” in Q34, ask]

36. Could you give me one recent example of how you or a member of your immediate family was impacted in a negative way by government? (Open-ended question)

(n=322)

Health care - General.....	28%
Taxes.....	14%
Lack of Bipartisanship/Federal government action/Leadership.....	4%
Gas prices.....	3%
IRS.....	3%
Jobs.....	3%
Military/Veterans benefits.....	3%
Money issues/financial stability.....	3%
Social Security.....	3%
General Insurance.....	2%
Other.....	12%
Declined to answer/ No answer.....	33%

37. In general, do you like to talk about current events with your friends?

Yes.....	64%
No.....	36%
Decline to answer	1%

38. Do you have the feeling that your friends and neighbors generally regard you as a good source of advice about current events?

Yes.....	51%
No.....	48%
Decline to answer	1%

39. In the last year, have you posted political-oriented content or commentary on a social media site?

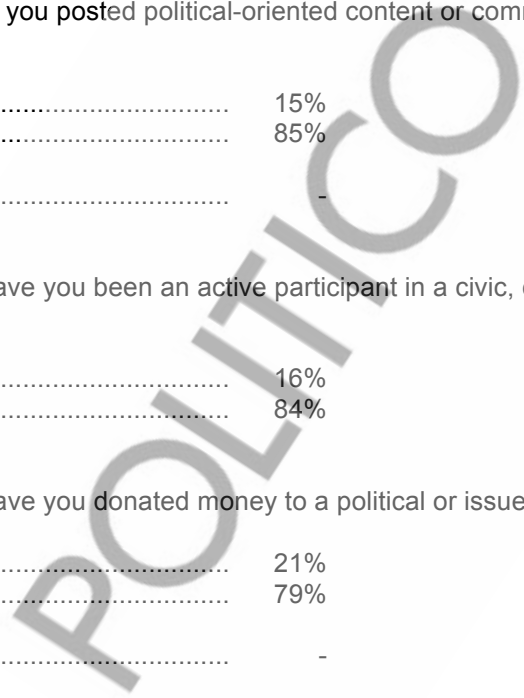
Yes.....	15%
No.....	85%
Decline to answer	-

40. In the past 2 years have you been an active participant in a civic, community or political organization?

Yes.....	16%
No.....	84%

41. In the past 2 years have you donated money to a political or issues-based cause?

Yes.....	21%
No.....	79%
Decline to answer	-



42. When it comes to most political issues, do you think of yourself as a...?

Liberal	17%
Moderate	41%
Conservative	41%
Decline to answer	2%

[If “Moderate” in Q42, ask]

43. As a moderate, which way do you lean?

	(n=357)
Liberal	25%
Moderate	40%
Conservative	35%

44. What is your religion?

Protestant (e.g., Methodist, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Episcopal)	24%
Catholic	22%
Baptist-any denomination	18%
Other Christian	13%
Pentecostal	3%
Mormon	2%
Jewish	2%
Buddhist	1%
Other non-Christian	3%
None	12%

[If anything except “None” in Q44, ask]

45. How important is religion in your own life?

	(n=765)
Very important	55%
Somewhat important	30%
Not very important	14%

[If “Baptist,” “Protestant,” “Catholic,” “Pentecostal,” or “Other Christian” in Q44, ask]

46. Do you consider yourself a born-again, or evangelical, Christian?

	(n=696)
Yes	42%
No.....	48%
Not sure.....	5%
Decline to answer	5%

47. How often do you attend religious services?

More than once a week.....	12%
Once a week	27%
Once or twice a month	12%
A few times a year	17%
Once a year	2%
Less than once a year.....	13%
Never.....	16%
Decline to answer	1%

48. Are you or is any member of your household a union member?

Yes.....	17%
No.....	83%

[If “Yes” in Q48, ask]

49. Is the union that you or a household member belongs to a public employee union or a labor union?

	(n=143)
Public employee union.....	32%
Labor union	62%
Both.....	6%

50. Age

18-24	5%
25-34	11%
35-44	16%
45-54	19%
55-64	25%
65-74	17%
75+	7%

51. Highest level of education

Less than high school	8%
High school	26%
Some college	32%
Bachelor's degree or higher	33%

52. Race / Ethnicity

White, Non-Hispanic	77%
Black, Non-Hispanic.....	12%
Hispanic	7%
Other, Non-Hispanic.....	2%
2+ Races, Non-Hispanic	1%

53. Gender

Male	50%
Female	50%

54. Housing

A one-family house detached from any other house	77%
A one-family house attached to one or more houses	8%
A building with 2 or more apartments	11%
A mobile home	4%

55. Marital Status

Married	64%
Never married	16%
Divorced	10%
Widowed	4%
Living with partner	4%
Separated	1%

56. Region

New England	4%
Mid-Atlantic	5%
East-North Central	16%
West-North Central	10%
South Atlantic	31%
East-South Central	5%
West-South Central	7%
Mountain	12%
Pacific	10%

57. Ownership Status of Living Quarters

Owned or being bought by you or someone in your household	80%
Rented for cash	19%
Occupied without payment of cash rent	1%

58. Household Income

Less than \$20,000	10%
\$20,000 to \$49,999	25%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	20%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	20%
Over \$100,000	24%

59. Current Employment Status

Working – as a paid employee.....	53%
Working – self-employed	8%
Not working – on a temporary layoff	*
Not working – looking for work.....	4%
Not working - retired.....	24%
Not working - disabled	5%
Not working – other.....	5%

60. Language of Interview

English	97%
Spanish	3%

61. Household Internet Access

Yes.....	81%
No.....	19%

Methodology

Partnering with SocialSphere, Inc., of Cambridge, Massachusetts – which designed and directed the survey – POLITICO surveyed 867 likely voters in the states and districts with the most competitive Senate and House races, as ranked by the University of Virginia Center for Politics. Conducted from May 2-13, the survey was administered on the web by GfK, using a sample from KnowledgePanel®, a large, national, probability-based online-survey panel. Respondents completed the online survey in English and Spanish; the average completion time was 10 minutes.

While the polls are completed online, KnowledgePanel®’s sampling frame includes Americans living in households without Internet access. GfK sends mailers – in English and Spanish – to random addresses in the U.S. Postal Service’s database. Recruits can join the panel by mailing back a form, calling a toll-free phone number or visiting a website. GfK provides those who want to join the panel but don’t have Internet access with a computer and/or free Internet access.

This sampling method addresses some criticisms of online polls—namely, that respondents are self-selecting. Unlike so-called “opt-in” panels—for which firms recruit members via pop-up ads or ads on websites—which anyone can join, KnowledgePanel® is only comprised of those Americans randomly selected through GfK’s address-based sampling. A design summary for KnowledgePanel® is available here: [http://marketing.gfkamerica.com/knowledgenetworks/knpanel/docs/KnowledgePanel\(R\)-Design-Summary-Description.pdf](http://marketing.gfkamerica.com/knowledgenetworks/knpanel/docs/KnowledgePanel(R)-Design-Summary-Description.pdf)

The margin of error for the full sample is plus-or-minus 4.1 percentage points. For likely voters in competitive Senate states, the margin of error is plus-or-minus 5.5 percentage points. For likely voters in competitive House districts, the margin of error is plus-or-minus 5.7 percentage points.

Likely voters were surveyed in the following states with competitive Senate elections: Alaska, Arkansas, Colorado, Georgia, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, North Carolina, New Hampshire, Oregon, South Dakota, Virginia and West Virginia.

Additionally, likely voters were surveyed in the following competitive House districts: Arizona-01, Arizona-02, Arizona-09, Arkansas-02, Arkansas-04, California-07, California-10, California-21,

California-25, California-26, California-31, California-36, California-52, Colorado-06, Connecticut-05, Florida-02, Florida-13, Florida-18, Florida-26, Georgia-12, Illinois-10, Illinois-11, Illinois-12, Illinois-13, Illinois-17, Indiana-02, Iowa-01, Iowa-03, Maine-02, Massachusetts-06, Michigan-01, Michigan-04, Michigan-07, Michigan-08, Michigan-11, Minnesota-02, Minnesota-07, Minnesota-08, Montana-AL, Nebraska-02, Nevada-03, Nevada-04, New Hampshire-01, New Hampshire-02, New Jersey-02, New Jersey-03, New Mexico-02, New York-01, New York-11, New York-18, New York-19, New York-21, New York-23, New York-24, North Carolina-07, Ohio-06, Ohio-14, Oregon-05, Pennsylvania-06, Pennsylvania-08, Texas-23, Utah-04, Virginia-02, Virginia-10, West Virginia-01, West Virginia-02, West Virginia-03 and Wisconsin-06.

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